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Conclude

26. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on a direction a calling card is swiped by said scanner.

27. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based a ready status of said telecommunications device.--

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants have carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-21 in the application. The Applicants presently cancel Claims 15-21 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new Claims 22-27. Accordingly, Claims 1-14 and 22-27 are currently pending in the application.

#### **I. Rejection of Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,817,136 to Rhoads. Inasmuch as Claims 15-21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, these claims have been withdrawn from consideration and will not be further discussed herein. Turning now to Claims 1-14, Rhoads fails to disclose transmitting a signal containing a telephone number to a telecommunications device to cause the telecommunications device to initiate

a telecommunications session, as recited by Claims 1 and 8. In contrast, Rhoads discloses a reader-dialer apparatus R having a dialing frequency generator 64 that is connected directly to a telephone interface circuit 66 wherein the telephone interface circuit 66 interfaces the reader-dialer apparatus R to a switching circuit of a telephone company central station. (Column 8, lines 15-25). "Thus, the signals which are generated through the dialing frequency generator 64 are transmitted through the telephone interface circuit 66 directly to the telephone company central station 68." (Column 8, lines 25-28). That is, the reader-dialer apparatus R initiates a telecommunications session. Those skilled in the art understand that initiating a telecommunications session via the reader-dialer apparatus R is different than transmitting a signal to a telecommunications device to initiate a telecommunications session.

Accordingly, Rhoads fails to disclose each and every element of independent Claims 1 and 8. Consequently, Rhoads is not an anticipatory reference with respect to Claims 1 and 8 and their dependent Claims 2-7 and 9-14, respectively. Therefore, the Applicants request the Examiner withdraw the §102 rejection with respect to Claims 1-21.

Rhoads also fails to disclose each and every element of new independent Claim 21. For instance, Rhoads fails to disclose a session initiator that determines whether to use a telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning and that transmits a signal containing said telephone number to said telecommunications device. In contrast, the reader-dialer apparatus R disclosed in Rhoads merely determines whether or not an area code and a "1" or a "0" require dialing. (Column 6, lines 66-68; column 7, lines 50-55). Accordingly, Rhoads fails to disclose each and every element of independent Claim 22. Consequently, Rhoads is not an anticipatory reference with respect to Claim 22 and its dependent claims 23-27.

## II. Additional References Made of Record

The Applicants believe that the additional references made of record and not relied upon by the Examiner are not particularly pertinent to the claimed invention, but the Applicants retain the right to address these references in detail, if necessary, in the future.

## III. Conclusion

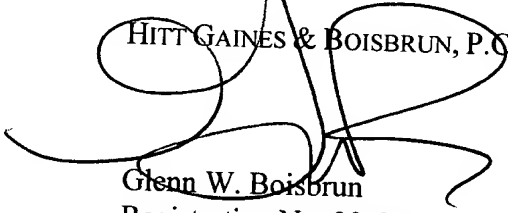
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-14 and 22-27.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

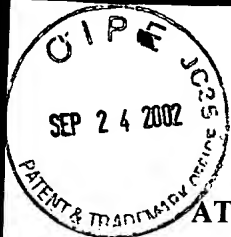
Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

(1) Please cancel Claims 15-21 without prejudice or disclaimer.

(2) Please add new Claims 22-26 as follows:

--22. (New) An automated telephony interface for use with a telecommunications device, comprising:

a scanner; and

a session initiator, coupled to said scanner, that parses information read by said scanner, extracts a telephone number from said information, determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning and transmits a signal containing said telephone number to said telecommunications device thereby initiating a telecommunications session.

23. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on a user-input manually entered into said scanner or said session initiator.

24. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 23 further including a user-operable switch coupled to said scanner or said session initiator for receiving said user-input.

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25. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on a user-input manually entered into said telecommunications device.

26. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on a direction a calling card is swiped by said scanner.

27. (New) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based a ready status of said telecommunications device.--